

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Minor Notices.

A NEW, revised, and enlarged edition of Dr. George Vasey's catalogue of the agricultural grasses and forage plants of the U. S. has just been issued. There has been such a large demand for this valuable bulletin that a new edition became necessary. The present edition contains 148 pages and 114 plates.

DR. GEORGE LAWSON has published, as an appendix, a school edition of the fern-flora of Canada. A brief account of the general character and parts of ferns is given, followed by a classification of Canadian ferns, with a full account of their localities. A plate illustrates the principal genera and makes them comparatively easy of identification. We would suggest that the work would have commended itself more to "schools" had there been inserted a few simple keys to genera and species.

DR. L. N. BRITTON has published a revision of the genus *Eleocharis* in N. America, distributed as Contribution 12 from the Herbarium of Columbia College, but reprinted from the *Jour. N. Y. Micr. Soc.* vol. 5, no. 4. So far as the range of Gray's Manual is concerned we note the following changes: *E. equisetoides* of the Manual=*E. interstincta* R. & S.; *E. quadrangulata*=*E. mutata* R. & S.; *E. obtusa*=*E. ovata* R. & S.; *E. simplex*=*E. tortilis* Sch.; *E. compressa*=*E. acuminata* Nees. Altogether, 40 species are enumerated, including a new one (*E. Parishii*) from S. California.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. T. S. BRANDEGEE and wife are making further explorations of the flora of Lower California.

PROF. C. S. SARGENT gives a full and illustrated account of *Celtis occidentalis* in *Garden and Forest* for January 22.

DR. FERDINAND HAUCK, the distinguished algologist, died at Trieste on the twenty-first of December, at the age of forty-four.

DECADES V and VI of *Hepaticæ Americanæ*, by Underwood & Cook, are announced as ready for distribution. All the sets of the first four decades are exhausted.

MR. G. C. NEALLEY made a large collection of plants of extreme Western Texas during the last season. They will be issued from the Department of Agriculture.

THE AMERICAN NATURALIST is to the front again with its initial number for 1890. It gives promise of renewed life, and its array of editors speaks well for the different departments.

MR. F. H. KNOWLTON, of the Smithsonian Institution, made a good collection of the plants of the San Francisco Mountains, Arizona, last season, which we hope will presently appear in printed form.